



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1998

No. 127

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, help us to see things from Your perspective and envision what can happen through Your power. We need You to help us combat the growing tide of cynicism in our society. Secular humanism is catching. It leads to horizontal thinking. We evaluate things on the basis of what we can do on our own strength. Sometimes our capacity to hope is debilitated by life's frustrations, disappointments over people, and our inability to control life. Cynicism becomes addictive. It begins with negativism, grows in a critical attitude, and becomes a settled personality trait.

Father, help us to be realistic about people and situations, but always expectant of what You can do. Give us Your joy as the only lasting antidote to cynicism. We trust You with our problems, difficult relationships, and disturbing anxieties. We commit the present crisis in our Nation to You and ask for Your wise guidance. Now, with Your help, we want to share contagious joy and not spread the virus of cynicism. In the Name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will immediately resume consideration of S. 1301, the Consumer Bankruptcy Protection Act, with Senator REED being recognized to

offer an amendment under a 1-hour time agreement. Following that debate, Senator KENNEDY will be recognized to offer an amendment regarding minimum wage under a 2-hour time agreement.

At 12:30 p.m. the Senate will recess until 2:15 to allow the two party conferences to meet. When the Senate reconvenes at 2:15 there will be 5 minutes for closing remarks on the Kennedy amendment prior to a vote on or in relation to the amendment. Following that vote, there will be up to four additional votes occurring in stacked sequence with minimal debate time between each vote. Those votes, in their respective order, will include the two Feingold amendments regarding attorney's fees and filing fees, the Reed amendment regarding underwriting standards, and the cloture vote on the child custody bill previously scheduled at 4:30.

I am still hopeful that we can come to some agreement on amendments and time so that we can go to the child custody bill without further cloture votes. But failing that, we will go forward with that vote at 4:30.

Further votes could occur into the evening as the Senate attempts to complete action on the bankruptcy bill. If we do not get to final passage tonight, then we expect that to be probably the first vote on Wednesday.

As a reminder to Senators, second-degree amendments to the child custody bill must be filed by 3:30 p.m.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S.J. RES. 56

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand there is a joint resolution at the desk due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUTCHINSON). The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 56) expressing the sense of Congress in support of the existing Federal legal process for determining the safety and efficacy of drugs, including marijuana and other Schedule I drugs, for medicinal use.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I object to further consideration of the resolution at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT OF 1998

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1301, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1301) to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide for consumer bankruptcy protection, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Lott (for Grassley/Hatch) amendment No. 3559, in the nature of a substitute.

Feingold/Specter amendment No. 3602 (to amendment No. 3559), to ensure payment of trustees' costs under chapter 7 of title 11, United States Code, of abuse motions, without encouraging conflicts of interest between attorneys and clients.

Feingold/Specter amendment No. 3565 (to amendment No. 3559), to provide for a waiver of filing fees in certain bankruptcy cases.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Rhode Island is recognized to offer an amendment regarding underwriting standards, on which there will be 1 hour of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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